



The Navy Lark Appreciation Society Newsletter

# NAVY DAYS



BBC1  
NEW SEASON: 1

## Radio Times

8-14 September 1973 Price 5p

### Loving with Leslie

INSIDE: Leslie Phillips looking  
back on his comedy career  
He stars in the new Galton  
and Simpson comedy  
series *Casanova '73*  
Thursday BBC1 Colour





## Navy Lark Appreciation Society Newsletter - Issue 14 Winter 2003

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Welcome aboard another edition of The Navy Lark Appreciation Society newsletter.  
After a succession of thicker double issues this edition is aiming to get back to its original size!

We have new members aplenty and a contingent from Goldstein's country of origin - Bung Ho! Bung Ho also to BBC personnel Michael Stevens and Louise Armitage who join the ranks of Navy Lark aficionados

A lot more bridges have been bashed since we last met and Troutbridge is looking a sight more dented.

Can I firstly say a very BIG Thank You to so many kind and generous members who have been in contact and helped out financially by making donations to the Society. It was wonderfully generous and very unexpected. It just goes to show what a lovely bunch of people Navy Lark enthusiasts are.

This last few months have been unusually quiet on the incoming

show front. It is unknown for such a long period of time to pass without any material surfacing but regrettably that is indeed the case.

The good news is that by the time you read this the BBC will have released their first CD box set of series 1 of The Navy Lark. If you have difficulty in finding the release locally then Choices Direct offer excellent discounts and free postage and packing.

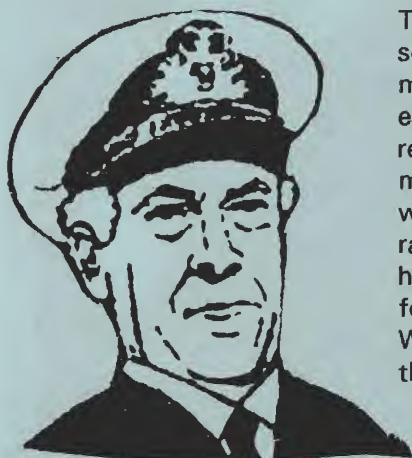
Many of you will have seen the flyer included in the last newsletter regarding Series 1 box set. Not immediately obvious was the number of shows the original issue proposed to offer in the box set. Looking at the pre-publicity on the web this issue looked like an opportunity of acquiring series 1 in total. Stephen Murray was credited as being in the shows which was wrong (Dennis Price was No1 in these broadcasts) but the chance to have pristine recordings was very exciting.

Andrew Pixley was preparing the sleeve notes for the issue when he found out that the release was

going ahead minus a number of shows. Andrew checked the listing and compared it to our library details and mailed the NLAS regarding those missing programmes. A flurry of activity and numerous messages between the BBC and NLAS suspended the original release date of the set and sound engineer Ted Kendal took delivery of various copies of the missing shows. He was able to track down alternative copies of some of the programmes and tidy up the sound quality by editing together different recordings. The result is truly laudable. A complete Series 1 just in time for Christmas! If you make the venture a financial success by buying your copy, the Series 2 plans which are well under way (with more NLAS material making its way back to the BBC) will become a reality in the coming months. However, the Society DESPERATELY needs you all to dig around those off air recordings. Series 2 is missing 4 shows and unless we find these in the coming months they will miss 2004 publication.

27.11.1959 'An Englishman is entitled to his own point of view and the right to express it freely'  
01.01.1960 'There have been many books printed on the art of public speaking'  
15.01.1960 'Everyday there are board meetings taking place at which monumental decisions have to be taken'  
26.02.1960 'No matter what position you hold, an interview with one's superior can be unnerving'

Use the announcer's opening remarks to help you discover those missing shows!



The BBC has advertised its digital services frequently over the last 15 months. BBC7 offers Old Time Radio enthusiasts a unique opportunity to re-record those favourite radio moments in a different way. Tape was the only method of archiving radio shows in the past. We now have a plethora of systems and formats jostling for our attention. Whichever system you enjoy using, the important element is to label and

archive your collection; without a system those radio gems will just get lost.

Colin R Howard has mentioned the name of David Godfrey. It is just possible that as a former engineer at the BBC, he or his family might have material which relates to the Navy Lark.  
Can anyone pick up the hunt from here?



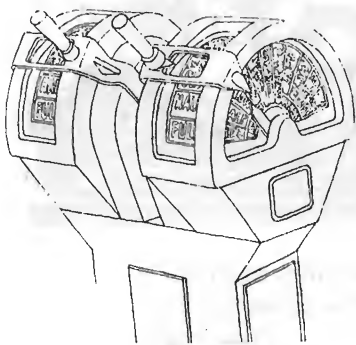
A rousing cheer please to David Matthews who has been doing his utmost to keep Troutbridge afloat in recent months. We have some wonderful shows, excellent data sheets and a promise of more. We all benefit from David's organisation and interest in the show.

April Walker kindly wrote to let us know of her house move. We hope that not too many oooh nasties have materialised and that the change of scene has been beneficial.

David Ward is the competition winner from the last newsletter and he receives his Troutbridge badge along with his copy of this newsletter. Well done for twinning the tall ship in the photograph and the episode dated 20.11.1959 called 'The Figurehead'

Contributions of any sort to future newsletters are always very welcome. Please post cuttings, photos or articles to the Suffolk Address.

## CHRISTMAS viewiNg



Ronnie Barker was in touch with us in October. He had just completed an appearance in a programme about HIS comedy heroes. One such individual was the Scottish comedy star Chic Murray. Ronnie explained that it was his admiration of Chic that gave rise to the way he played Lt. Queeg. The production team then wanted a prime example of Queeg's vocal ramblings for inclusion in the TV show. Ronnie thought we might be able to help out and asked the NLAS to select an appropriate speech. Keen listeners will recall that most of Queeg's character is dependent on



explaining why he can not perform specific tasks due to his lack of knowledge with regard to engines, whereas his young accomplice is likewise incapable -not through poor training but solely due to a succession of intestinal issues requiring immediate and urgent attention somewhere else on board ship! The character is immediately amusing to anyone aware of the Queeg's history, but a television audience would not necessarily understand the humour, not having 'grown' with the character. A compilation tape of every one of

Queeg's appearances was put together for Ronnie Barker. A suggestion was made as to which speech was probably the best introduction to Queeg and after listening to the tapes Ronnie agreed. The appearance selected is from show 1 in the seventh series (11.07.1965). Although Queeg had appeared in 4 previous broadcasts, during the sixth season of the show Ronnie really powers away with the character of Queeg in the chosen episode as he joins ship's company of Troutbridge - officially.

If anyone has a good copy of show 8/9 30.10.1966 NLAS would be grateful for a copy. Again Ronnie is simply wonderful as Queeg uttering: "The lad was only able to stay on board long enough to start the motor.....He bought himself a packet of instant Welsh rarebit. If ever he chucked his money down the drain it was this morning....Instant wasn't the word for it. Struck him like lightning... The delivery and script are 2nd to none, and should be included in those surveys the Radio Times seems so fond of.

## ON the Way



Over the last two years we have had requests for various items of merchandise. Although that ship's plaque seems as far away as ever at this moment, designs are being finalised for two mugs. Unlike ceramic ware normally associated with 'clubs', this product is superb in quality and something unique. The mug is not a chunky style mug it is more individual. The full colour imagery and artwork are of the highest standard. A delightful mug featuring the film and radio show is being prepared as we go to press, together with a limited edition design to celebrate 40 years of the Navy Lark (1999). At that time we issued a very limited edition commemorative 1st day cover to celebrate the event. However, the mug will be a chance for everyone to mark that important date. Details should be with us from the designers in the next issue. Needless to say we have started to think about 2009!



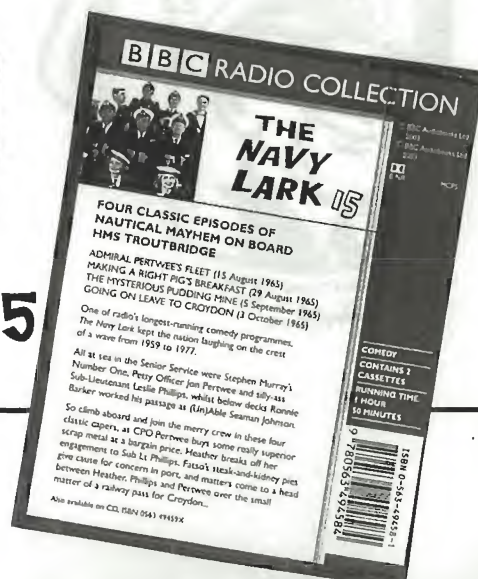
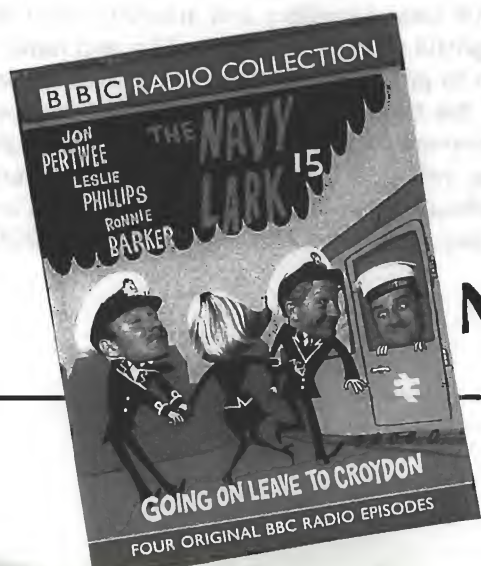
# The Navy Lark Collections



BBC Worldwide have released another compilation of *Navy Lark* tapes this Autumn (October 2003). A pictorial card slip case has been added to three previously released cassette issues but the new bundle sells for substantially less than three tapes when bought individually. Artwork from the original issues is transferred to the box with the additional legend "The Collection 2"



BBC Worldwide have now issued two compilations and you might want to add these to your archive. The shows have all been available through existing releases; if you have fallen behind with your collection this is a very cost effective way of catching up! And Don't Forget **NL 15** available on CD and tape. Look out for them at your local bookshop.



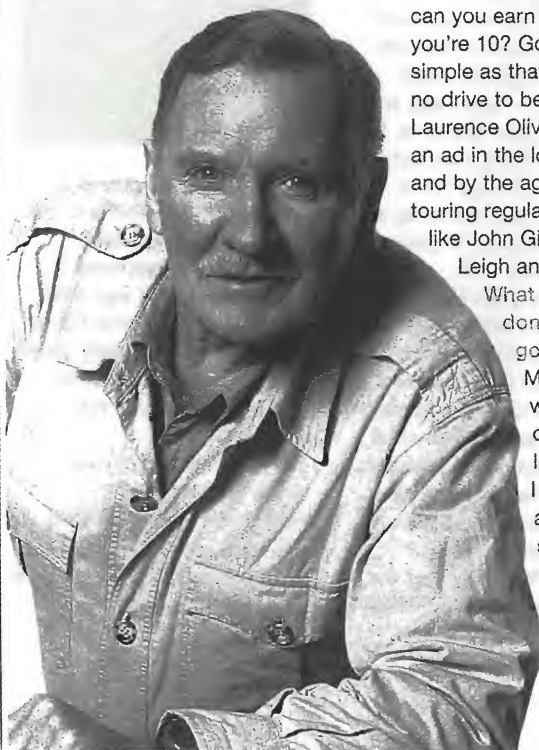


## out to lunch

LESLIE PHILLIPS

No one else makes, "Oh, hello!" sound so deliciously wicked. But, as the actor reminds Steven Paul Davies, there's a serious side to his unstoppable career

*"I never thought I had a lot to offer as an actor. I did it purely for the money... My original desire was to be a doctor"*



*Leslie Phillips was born into a working-class family in Tottenham in 1924. The star of many early Carry On and Doctor films, he quickly became a national institution. Constantly rediscovered by new generations, Leslie recently completed work on two Hollywood blockbusters, Tomb Raider and Harry Potter. He lives in London with his wife, Angela.*

*Did you always want to be an actor?*

No. I never thought I had a lot to offer as an actor. I did it purely for the money. How can you earn money when you're 10? Go on the stage, simple as that. I certainly had no drive to be the next Laurence Olivier. I answered an ad in the local paper and by the age of 14 I was touring regularly with actors like John Gielgud, Vivien Leigh and Rex Harrison.

*What would you have done if you hadn't got into acting?*

My original desire was to be a doctor. I quite like hospitals. I love the ambience, the smell of anaesthetic.

*How does it feel to be*

constantly coming back into our lives through the years? Well it's quite extraordinary at my age to still be carrying on and, hopefully, getting better as the years go by.

*Why do you think the Carry On and Doctor films remain so popular?*

I think it's all down to TV. The Carry On films are constantly repeated, so they're always finding a new audience. I still get letters from people of all ages and from all over the world, most of them telling me how I never seem to alter. I personally think those films have been flogged to death – and the actors don't get a penny in royalties.

*So do you regret doing the Carry On films?*

Well I only did the early ones and made a conscious decision to get out after the first few. When I saw it was growing, I could see that the actors involved in them were really taking a big risk in terms of being typecast later on. So I think I did the right thing in turning the rest down.

*Did your agent mind you refusing those parts?*

I simply told him that I wasn't going to accept any more broad comedy roles. Nobody could persuade me away from that. It's the only conscious decision I've made in my



career. I wanted something better on my gravestone than 'Carry On Leslie'. I think it paid off because, after a while, more serious stuff began to come in – Shakespeare, Chekhov and Tennessee Williams, as well as roles in *Empire of the Sun* and *Out of Africa*.

What are your fondest memories of the Fifties and Sixties?

I worked so much in that period, it's all a bit of a haze. In one year I calculated that I'd done nine films and been the lead in six of them. It was a fantastic time for me in terms of regular work.

Did you consider yourself a sex symbol as a result of the parts you played?

I suppose I was in a way, because I played naughty men. I still play up to that image sometimes and have a bit of fun as a guest on TV shows. A mate of mine, Jonathan Ross, likes to get me to act like those old characters I'm known for. Do you get sick of people reciting your catchphrases? Sometimes it's annoying. People just can't get enough of me saying, 'Oh, hello!'. They come up to me on the Tube and in restaurants and ask me to say it, and people are always asking me to record it for them so they can use it on answer-phone messages.

Who has been your favourite leading lady?

Kay Kendall. We both starred



Clockwise: as Doctor in *Love with Carol Leslie*; in *Tomb Raider* with Angelina Jolie, displaying his OBE with his proud wife, Angela

in *Les Girls* in Hollywood in 1957 and I had a great relationship with her. We became very good friends. But it wasn't long after I met her that I realised she was quite ill. It was very sad that she died so young.

And who's the greatest actor you've worked with? Anthony Hopkins. We both appeared in a film called *August* a few years ago and I saw how talented he is. He now lives in America, but we stay in touch. And I'm in touch with his mother as well. What do you do in your spare time?

I sort out my fan mail. New generations write to me. I had a letter the other day from a 13-year-old telling me how much she loved the *Doctor* films. It's extraordinary that I have a huge youth following. Are you flattered that the film-makers of today want you in their films?

In *Harry Potter* I played the voice of a magic hat, which was great because I don't

think anyone has played a hat before. It's a first and the director was absolutely smashing. I'm supposed to be in the sequel. I was a bit disappointed by *Tomb Raider* because I was originally down to have quite a substantial part in it, but a lot of my scenes were cut.

Do you think you'll ever retire from acting? Retirement is not a word in my vocabulary. Producers will always need old actors. I think it's really a question of whether you're in or out.





GAIL GRAINGER, WHO PLAYS LESLIE'S SECRETARY IN 'CASANOVA '73' IS ALSO WORKING WITH HIM IN 'THE MAN MOST LIKELY TO ...' SAYS GAIL: 'I'VE NEVER NOTICED HIM BEING A CASANOVA SOCIALLY. I DON'T KNOW WHY HE GETS CAST THAT WAY'

← loyal when it's gone. But I'm no Casanova.'

Now is his chance. He's starring in Thursday's new television comedy series by Galton and Simpson, *Casanova '73*. It's about a modern Casanova. 'He's married, and in PR - but then I expect you know him. He can't resist a bit of skirt - beyond the point where he even really wants it.'

'Although I say I'm not like the characters I play, I suppose I must grow like them to an extent. Like actors who play Shakespeare get terribly royal.' He moves his head slowly from side to side and squares his shoulders, in a very good imitation of a Shakespearean at a party.

### The image lingers on

Certainly Leslie Phillips doesn't look like a Casanova. Although I mean that as a compliment - and besides, they so rarely do! - he's a mild man, slightly built and with sandy hair. And, of course, with the famous post-Niven moustache. 'I don't see there's anything wrong in wearing a moustache,' he says defensively. 'I was once told on some TV programme that it was the stamp of a psychopath to wear a moustache, but I think they're rather in at the moment.'

'I grew one for a part I was playing because I can't bear spirit gum with my kind of skin. Besides, now it's the kind of basic image - suave, cheery and British. Easy to get along with, that sort of thing. You create a popular image without realising it.'

'It's the popular image you can't get away from all your life. It always hangs on to you, whatever you do.' It's the popular image which, if it wasn't for the tax man, would have made Leslie Phillips a very rich man. As long ago as 1966 he was said to have earned about £100,000 in four years.

His life-style, at a glance, is pleasantly comfortable, rather than oppressively affluent. He lives in a large house in Maida Vale, London, surrounded by possessions: 'I think actors need possessions to keep them sane. They're great nest-builders - I certainly am. Always picking things up wherever I go, and carrying them back to my nest.' He loves to talk about his pictures ➤➤➤





**Casanova '73**  
**Thursday 8.0**  
**BBC1 Colour;**  
**The Navy Lark**  
**Sunday 2.2 pm Radio 2**

Leslie Phillips has a not unfamiliar role in Thursday's new BBC1 comedy series written by Galton and Simpson—he plays a smooth-talking womaniser. But he's not like that in real life, he protests to Gillian Strickland

## Leslie, stuck as a wolf

LESLIE PHILLIPS is a man who thinks before he speaks. And thinks and thinks. He turns the words over in his mind like a Frenchman rolling wine round his palate.

He's not Sub-Lieutenant Leslie Phillips of *The Navy Lark*; not Leslie Phillips, *The Man Most Likely To...* And most emphatically, he's not 'Leslie (Carry On) Phillips.' Five years ago he tried unsuccessfully to stop his old *Carry On* films being shown on TV.

At the time he said he was trying to model his career on more serious lines: 'But having these films portray me as a sort of comic idiot makes this very difficult.' Nevertheless, that comic idiot has been the mainstay of his working life.

He started acting when he was ten, in *Peter Pan*.

Prophetically, he played the wolf, and that's the image that's stuck with him ever since. The hardened womaniser of *Boeing-Boeing*; and the ineffectual middle-aged lecher Victor Cadwallader he's been playing almost without a break since 1968 in *The Man Most Likely To...*

'I like women,' he says rather gloomily, 'but it's like people say to you "Do you like children?" I don't like them all. I don't go round with loads of women. I'm very specific. I'm very loyal—until it's gone. I might be dis- ➤➤➤'



CAROLINE MORTIMER LIVES WITH LESLIE PHILLIPS — 'BUT AT THE MOMENT WE HARDLY EVER MEET,' HE SAYS. 'SHE'S WORKING ON A BBC2 SERIAL, I'M WORKING ON CASANOVA. OUR ONLY CONTACT IS OVER THE OCCASIONAL COFFEE IN THE REHEARSAL ROOMS'



← women can be actresses, like they can be journalists or models. But they get over it, like child actors. I was a child actor once – and I grew out of it!’

Slumped back into a big comfortable sofa, Leslie Phillips looks a picture of leisure. Nothing could be farther from his personality. He's restless, never settles. Over the years he's been involved in all sorts of projects: property development, his own film company. 'I'm very interested in Lloyd's [of London] at the moment. And I want to make another film: although I'd describe my film company as moribund at present.

'I need all those things as ballast to the soufflé of playing comedy every night. It's my way of keeping a balance. But whatever you do, you can't get away from the popular image. I go off and do the occasional super television play, and nobody wants to know about it. Or I go and produce a film. Or my last play, *The Deadly Game*, was a straight dramatic role.

'A worrying thing keeps happening to me at the moment. People I meet keep telling me I look better in reality than I do on the screen. That's not how it should be! I don't go out much, not if I can help it. I don't drink an awful lot, and I hate those stand-up gatherings where you all look at one another. I don't get that much time to waste.' ●

**Radio Times**  
**50th**  
**BIRTHDAY**

**Flashback:**  
The Navy Lark,  
starring Leslie  
Phillips, was  
launched on  
Easter Day 1959



RADIO TIMES that week said:

6 Sub Lt Leslie Phillips? He's either a simpleton or a villain... It's all very fishy, and we have a feeling that it is going to take Commander Povey, the latest in a long and unfortunate line of inspecting officers, the whole run of *The Navy Lark* to find out... 9



MADLINE SMITH, WHO PLAYS LESLIE PHILLIPS'S GOD-DAUGHTER, HADN'T MET HIM BEFORE WE TOOK THEIR PICTURE TOGETHER. 'I LOOKED ON LESLIE WITH AWE BEFORE TODAY. HE'S SO PROFESSIONAL AND METICULOUS... EXACTLY AS I HAD IMAGINED'

Keith McMillan



← and his furniture, and obviously gets pleasure out of having them admired.

'You can say I live with two dogs and Caroline Mortimer.' Caroline Mortimer has come into the room, now, and she laughs. 'When Carrie was interviewed for RADIO TIMES, for the piece about her and her mother, you said: "Caroline Mortimer lives with two dogs and Leslie Phillips." Now's my chance to redress the balance.'

### Happy - 'then it went wrong'

He has been living with the actress Caroline Mortimer (daughter of the novelist Penelope Mortimer) since his divorce in 1965. His wife was another actress, Penelope Bartley. They have four children - the girls are both in their 20s now - and he was married for 17 years. 'Yes, I was married for a long time, and very strangely happily. Then it went wrong. I think part of it just died.'

'Part of it was very strong - the part which keeps my relationship with my ex-wife going, and the family - the children - whom I adore. But for someone who's aggressive (and I am), you can't just settle for half a relationship at that age, you can't just drift.'

He was in his early 40s when the marriage broke up. But now that he'll be 50 next year? 'Settle. Drift through. Nothing's perfection - certainly no relationship I know. As you get older you've got to assess the values of what you've got, not what you want. You've an uncanny way of creating patterns in life and before you know where you are you're doing just the same thing again. Once you've started a relationship which appears to be fantastic, the more you create within that relationship and the more destructive it becomes. The more you find out about each other, the more chance you have of destroying each other, I think. A marvelous example of what I mean is *Last Tango*. I think it's very real; it does apply to life.'

'I find I don't know many women outside the theatre. I often find women are more tricky to work with when they pass a certain age. You see, if a woman's still an actress when past the age of, say, 35 she must be different from other women. Young →



JAN HOLDEN PLAYS LESLIE PHILLIPS'S WIFE IN 'CASANOVA '73': 'LESLIE'S A VERY SWEET MAN,' SHE SAYS, 'AND AMAZINGLY HARD-WORKING. HOW DOES HE MANAGE TO DO SO MANY THINGS - AND STILL FIND TIME TO PLAY POKER WITH MY HUSBAND?'



**BBC1  
NEW SEASON: 1**



Don Smith

**IN THE BEGINNING . . . MR AND MRS NEWHOUSE. 'SHE'S A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN. IF I WASN'T MARRIED, I'D BE AFTER HER MYSELF!' - BUT CAROL'S THE ONLY ONE WHO IS SAFE: 8.0 PM**

## **7.25 Colour Top of the Pops**

Introduced by **Tony Blackburn**  
TOP OF THE POPS ORCHESTRA  
Musical director **JOHNNY PEARSON**  
PAN'S PEOPLE

Choreography **FLICK COLBY**  
Sound **RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN**  
Producer **JOHNNIE STEWART**

The post office says 'Someone, somewhere wants a letter from you.' Well, Henry Newhouse doesn't, thank you very much - not if it's from Valerie! And anyway, it isn't just one letter we're talking about - the stupid girl says that she is going to write to him every day . . .

Postman.....**NEIL WILSON**  
Another postman.**STUART SHERWIN**  
An Oriental friend....**PIK-SEN LIM**

Make-up **MAGGIE WEBB**  
Costume **JANET THARBY**  
Music **NICK INGMAN** and **MAX HARRIS**  
Designer **TIM GLEESON**  
Producer **HAROLD SNOAD**  
(Leslie Phillips is appearing in 'The Man Most Likely To' at the Duke of York's Theatre, London)  
Cover story: pages 70-75

## **8.0 Colour: New series Casanova '73**

starring  
**Leslie Phillips**  
as **Henry Newhouse**  
in **The Adventures of a 20th-century Libertine**  
by **RAY GALTON** and **ALAN SIMPSON**  
featuring  
**JAN HOLDEN** as **Carol Newhouse**



**RadioTimes  
50th  
BIRTHDAY**

Leslie Phillips is featured in  
RADIO TIMES 50th Anniversary  
Special on sale today, 13 Sep-  
tember, price 50p



Programmes for 10 September

## Radio2



pot for Stewpot? 'We'll have news of the day's re-makers with the under-25 audience in mind,' is Ed Stewart - presenting Newsbeat with Laurie - 'and that means there's room for news of your ite music stars too': Weekdays, 12.30, 5.30 pm, R1

9.2\*-11.30 Stereo

**Pete Murray's  
Open House**

including at  
10.30

**Waggoners' Walk NW**

(Friday afternoon's broadcast) †

7.2

### The Navy Lark

with Jon Pertwee

Leslie Phillips

and Stephen Murray

A chronicle of events aboard  
HMS Troutbridge

Written by LAWRIE WYMAN

and GEORGE EVANS

and involving RICHARD CALDICOT

HEATHER CHASEN, TENNIEL EVANS

MICHAEL BATES

and special guest

Elizabeth Morgan

Announcer BARRI HAYNES

Producer

ALASTAIR SCOTT JOHNSTON

(Sunday's broadcast) †

(Leslie Phillips is in 'The

Man Most Likely To . . . ' at

the Duke of York's Theatre;

and Richard Caldicot in 'No

Sex, Please - We're British' at

the Strand Theatre, London)

Loving with Leslie: cover

story, pages 70-75



Leslie Phillips will be

featured in RADIO TIMES

Anniversary Special on

sale 13 September, 50p

7.30 Sports Desk

7.32

### The Song Stylists

Teddy Johnson looks back over  
half a century of singers and  
their songs

Written by KEN BARNES

Producer JOHN MELOY

8.2

### Humphrey Lyttelton

with The Best of Jazz on records

Producer KEITH STEWART

9.2

### International Boxing

1500m (202m in Scotland) only



Ten-round

Light-

Heavyweight

Contest

Promoted by

Harry Levene





**Timothy Gray**  
**Leslie Phillips**

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (2002) ... *Voice of the Sorting Hat*

Tomb Raider (2001) ... *Wilson*

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (2001) ... *The Voice of The Sorting Hat*

Saving Grace (2000) ... *Vicar*

Jackal, The (1997) ... *Woolburton*

August (1996) ... *Professor Alexander Blathwaite*

King Ralph (1991) ... *Gordon*

Mountains of the Moon (1990) ... *Mr. Arundell*

Scandal (1989) ... *Lord Astor*

Empire of the Sun (1987) ... *Maxton*

Out of Africa (1985) ... *Sir Joseph*

Not Now Darling (1975) ...

Spanish Fly (1975) ...

Don't Just Lie There, Say Something! (1973) ...

Magnificent Seven Deadly Sins, The (1971) ...

Doctor in Trouble (1970) ... *Dr. Burke*

Some Will, Some Won't (1970) ... *Simon Russell*

Maroc 7 (1967) ... *Raymond Lowe ; Producer*

Carnaby, M.d. (1967) ... *Dr. Gaston Grimsdyke*

You Must Be Joking! (1965) ... *Young Husband*

In the Doghouse (1964) ... *Jimmy Fox-Upton*

Father Came Too (1964) ... *Roddy Chisfield*

Crooks Anonymous (1963) ... *Dandy Forsdyke*

Fast Lady, The (1963) ... *Freddy Fox*

Longest Day, The (1962) ... *RAF Officer*

Big Money, The (1962) ... *Receptionist*

Carry On Teacher (1962) ... *Alistair Grigg*

Coming-Out Party, A (1962) ... *Jimmy Cooper*

Roommates (1962) ... *Mervyn*

Make Mine a Double (1961) ... *Squadron Leader Thomas*

Beware of Children (1961) ... *David Parnham*

Watch Your Stern (1961) ... *Lt. Cmdr. Fanshawe*

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Weekend With Lulu, A (1961) ... *Timothy Gray*

Inn for Trouble (1960) ... *John Belcher*

Please Turn Over (1960) ... *Dr. Henry Manners*

Carry On Constable (1960) ... *Constable Potter*

Doctor in Love (1960) ... *Dr. Tony Burke*

Navv Lark, The (1959) ... *Lt. Pouter*

Carry On Nurse (1959) ... *Jack Bell*

Angry Hills, The (1959) ... *Ray Taylor*

Man Who Liked Funerals, The (1959) ... *Simon Hurd*

This Other Eden (1959) ... *Crispin Brown*

Hell, Heaven or Hoboken (1958) ... *Ma*

High Flight (1957) ... *Squadron Leader Blake*

Just My Luck (1957) ... *Hon. Richard Lumt*

Barretts of Wimpole Street, The (1957) ... *Harry Bevan*

Les Girls (1957) ... *Sir Gerald Wren*

Smallest Show On Earth, The (1957) ... *Robin Carter*

Brothers in Law (1957) ... *Shopman*

Value for Money (1957) ... *Rob Johns*

Gamma People, The (1956) ... *Howard Meade*

Limping Man, The (1953) ... *Cameron*

Fake, The (1953) ... *Boy Student*

Breaking the Sound Barrier (1952) ... *Controller*

Train of Events (1952) ... *Stacey's Fireman*

Her Panelled Door (1951) ...

Pool of London (1951) ... *Hair*

Galloping Major, The (1951) ...

Lassie From Lancashire (1938)

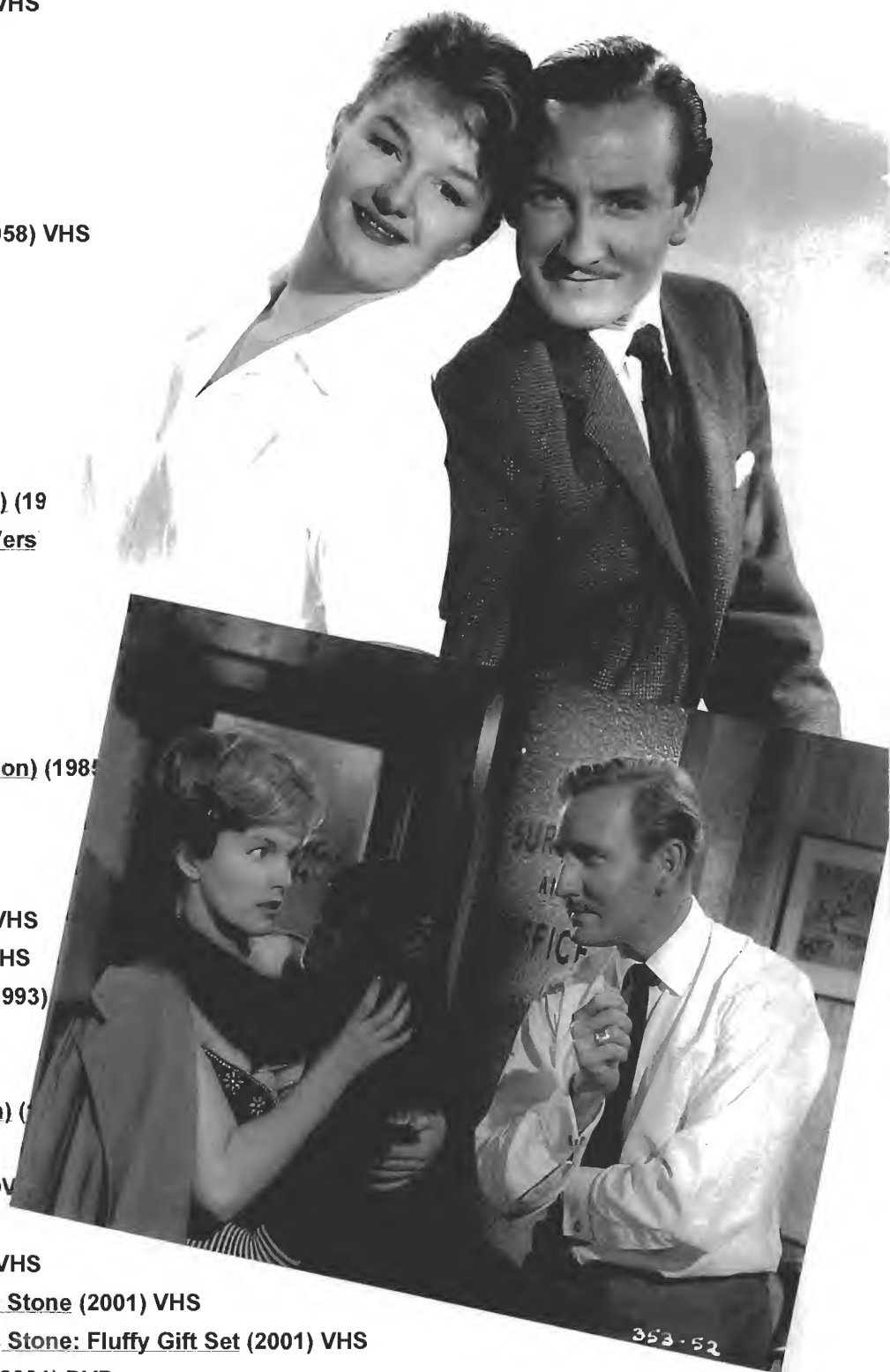
Citadel, The (1938) ...



# Leslie Phillips Video Titles

## Available from Movies Unlimited

The Love Of Jeanne Ney (1927) VHS  
Lassie From Lancashire (1938) VHS  
The Citadel (1938) VHS  
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The Limping Man (1953) VHS  
Les Girls (1957) VHS  
Just My Luck (1957) VHS  
The Smallest Show On Earth (1958) VHS  
Carry On Teacher (1959) VHS  
Carry On Nurse (1959) VHS  
Please Turn Over (1960) VHS  
Doctor In Love (1960) VHS  
Make Mine A Double (1961) VHS  
The Longest Day (1962) VHS  
The Longest Day (Color Version) (1962) VHS  
The Longest Day (Letterboxed Version) (1962) VHS  
Raising The Wind (1962) VHS  
Doctor In Clover (1966) VHS  
Maroc 7 (1967) VHS  
Doctor In Trouble (1970) VHS  
Out Of Africa (1985) VHS  
Out Of Africa (Letterboxed Version) (1985) VHS  
Empire Of The Sun (1987) VHS  
Scandal (1989) VHS  
Scandal [DVD] (1989) DVD  
Mountains Of The Moon (1990) VHS  
Love On A Branch Line (1993) VHS  
Love On A Branch Line [DVD] (1993) DVD  
The Pale Horse (1996) VHS  
The Jackal (1997) VHS  
The Jackal (Letterboxed Version) (1997) VHS  
The Jackal [DVD] (1997) DVD  
The Jackal (DTS) [DVD] (1997) DVD  
Saving Grace (2000) VHS  
Lara Croft: Tomb Raider (2001) VHS  
Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone (2001) VHS  
Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone: Fluffy Gift Set (2001) VHS  
Lara Croft: Tomb Raider [DVD] (2001) DVD  
Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone [DVD] (2001) DVD  
Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone (Letterboxed Version) [DVD] (2001) DVD  
Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone: Fluffy Gift Set [DVD] (2001) DVD  
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## Loaded

Occasionally a publisher comes up with a bizarre idea and manages to get the notion past the accountants and onto the lap of his editorial board then onwards into the 'real world'.

Tim Southwell editor of Loaded decided to celebrate and mark the new Millennium in January 2000 with a unique publishing feat. He decided to publish the same magazine (issue 69) with 100 different covers. The front covers featured politicians, rock stars, well known cartoon characters film stars and models.

Leslie Phillips made it to version 45 of the Loaded 100 sandwiched between Jimi Hendrix and Jo Guest - a regular model in the magazine. Who was number 11 hear you ask? *Basil Brush!*

## Leslie's role

**ACTOR** Leslie Phillips has been appointed a vice president of the Disabled Living Foundation.

Leslie said: "I have seen the DLF in action and can confirm that nothing beats the incredible staff in their endeavours to help, advise and make life a little easier for disabled and elderly people, whatever the problem."

● DLF: 0845 130 9177



● Leslie Phillips

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## DRAMA

# Dose of Holby for Leslie

VETERAN comedy actor Leslie Phillips turns up in Holby City over Christmas – not as yet another doomed patient but as Tom's dad, a high-ranking medical professional.

For the moment it's just a one-off guest appearance, for Leslie, right, but his arrival sparks a dramatic series of events which will unveil startling facts about Tom's background. "We really get to see the cracks in Tom's character," reveals a Holby insider.

There are also fresh developments in the up-and-down relationship

between Chrissie and Owen, as the intensity between them steps up a gear.

Kath and Terry's situation is moving on too – a red-hot storyline but one which spotlights Holby drama at its sharpest.

Meanwhile down in Casualty there are major developments at the Christmas party. Colette and Simon find themselves

getting more than a little bit cosy, while, in one of the funnier scenes, Anna meets up with a blind date. Look out for some high-profile stuff involving Lara and Harry, too.

As far as the immediate action is concerned, Josh is at the centre of the most dramatic Christmas storyline, at least in terms of how much it drains the special effects budget.



**HE-LLO: Leslie plays a top doc on Holby**

**COMPILED BY MIKE WARD**



# Bow to the arts across the board

Those used to plaudits from the public are delighted at receiving official recognition, reports **Dalya Alberge**

TWO of the Government's staunchest supporters were among the roll-call of arts figures honoured yesterday. There were knights for the playwrights David Hare, whose dramas include *Sly*, *Left*, and John Mortimer, the barrister who created television's *Rumpole* series.

While Mr Hare once described himself as "an absolutely mainstream Labour Party member", he is not afraid to criticise it. Sir John is a lifelong supporter.

Ian Holm, 60, the Shakespearean actor, received a knighthood. More than 20 years on since he had a breakdown after he kicked them out of the theatre for three years, his performances have attracted rave reviews, with critics hailing his interpretation of Lear as one of the best.

Holm, who is in Canada filming David Cronenberg's

latest movie, *Existenz*, said: "I am absolutely delighted with the honour."

Leslie Phillips, 74, the veteran actor who is best remembered as the archetypal English cad and master of chat-up lines, although his more serious roles have been with the Royal Shakespeare Company, is appointed an OBE. He has been in the business for six decades, starring in the *Carry On* and *Doctor* films, and boasts a wardrobe full of velvet smoking jackets.

Yesterday, he spoke of having "great giggles" over the award. "It's a wonderful thing to get. You get kicked around through your life. It's a tough profession, although everyone thinks it's easy."

Wayne Sleep, who danced on stage with Diana, Princess of Wales, at the Royal Opera House in 1985, becomes an

## IT COULD BE YOUR NOMINATION

IF YOU know someone who deserves an honour, contact the Nominations Unit in Whitehall for a form on 0171-276 2777/2778 (Valerie Elliot writes). The individual may be famous throughout Britain or unknown beyond their village, but they must have shown exceptional service. If you wish to mark someone's retirement or a particular anniversary, or if someone is to step down from a society or organisation, attached to the form.



Leslie Phillips, "the archetypal cad", becomes an OBE; June Whitfield is made a CBE and Ian Holm is knighted

72, star of several *Carry On* films, the 1970s sitcom *Terry and June* and more recently the hugely successful *Absolutely Fabulous*, was made a CBE. She has already been awarded the OBE for her services to showbusiness in 1985. "I think it's just wonder-

ful," she said yesterday. "I think it's for all my work in the entertainment business—and for staying the course."

Ms Whitfield's career has spanned five decades. She made her name on BBC radio's *Take It From Here*—she was Eth in *The Glums*



## The great and good are not forgotten

By ALAN HAMILTON

A FREE CHURCH minister leads a strong representation of the great and good, traditionally the core of honours lists.

The Rev Kathleen Richardson, 60, moderator of the Free Churches' Council, is created a life peer and becomes the first ordained woman to sit in the House of Lords. Baroness Richardson became the first woman President of the Methodist Conference, the nonconformist equivalent of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Knighthoods go to Professor Joseph Rotblat, who recently called for an international ethical committee on cloning, to John Hoddinott, Chief Constable of Hampshire, and to Robert Maipas, the engineer behind Eurotunnel.

Lord Marshall, the chairman of British Airways, was awarded a life peerage. Verner Bogdanor, Professor of Government at Oxford University and a leading constitutional authority, is created CBE, as is Piers Gough, one of the most innovative of contemporary architects.

Trade unions are not forgotten. An OBE goes to Barry Leathwood, an official of the TGWU and leader of the workers' side of the Agricultural Wages Board.

John Wilkins, the long-serving editor of *The Tablet*, the weekly Roman Catholic newspaper, is made an MBE for services to religious journalism. Lord Harris of Greenwich, Liberal Democrat Chief Whip in the Lords, becomes a Privy Counsellor.

people who don't read" — a claim that is demolished by the sheer scale on which his writings sell.

Victoria Glendinning, who won the Whitbread Prize with her biographies of Vita Sackville-West and Trollope, is made a CBE.



# The Navy Lark

BBC 7 Home  
What's On

## Comedy

Comedy Hour  
Classic Comedy  
Comedy Zone  
Comedy Club  
Favourites

## Drama

Kids  
Presenters  
Fun & Games  
Highlights  
Message Board  
What is BBC 7?  
Help & FAQs  
E-cards



**Picture shows:** (L-R) Stephen Murray as Lieut. Murray, Richard Caldicot as Commander Povey, Leslie Phillips as Sub. Lieut Phillips and Ronnie Barker as A.B. Johnson

"If ever a detestable drip deserved a dirty great dollop of diabolical old dodgy doodah to drop on him from a great height, he does, don't he?"

The Navy Lark was radio's longest running sitcom, sailing the airwaves for nearly twenty years before coming into harbour with a Jubilee Special in 1977. It was initially based on Jon Pertwee's experiences in World War 2. During his time in the Navy, Pertwee joined the cast of the naval radio show HMS Waterlogged after his senior officer had sent him to check the show for inappropriate jokes. After leaving the forces, Pertwee appeared in various other radio productions until The Navy Lark was created as a vehicle for his acting talents in 1959.



## Related Links

Leslie Phillips interview  
Ronnie Barker biography  
The Navy Lark Appreciation Society

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external websites

Another famous voice came in the shape of Leslie Phillips as the havoc-wreaking Sub-Lieutenant. His cries of "Left hand down a bit!" failed to instil any confidence in his skills as navigating officer. Leslie Phillips once said of his character: "I caused more damage to Naval property than the Navy had done in two world wars."

The series was written by Laurie Wyman, who also wrote for Tony Hancock, and was later co-written by George Evans, who wrote The Mike and Bernie Winters Show for TV. Although highly unrealistic, The Navy Lark turned out to be especially popular with Royal Navy sailors.

The show brought fame for a young Ronnie Barker. Before HMS Troughtbridge came along, Barker had performed in The Floggits (which also featured Anthony Newley and Joan Sims), but the stars of the show, Elsie and Doris Waters, were jealous that he got too many laughs, so the appearance was short-lived.

Between series four and five of The Navy Lark appeared a spin-off, The TV Lark, which featured Number One, Fatso et al in a different setting. 'Troughtbridge TV Ltd' was the crew's new home for 10 shows, but one land-based series was enough and they were soon back at sea.



# BBC 7 and the NLAS Library

How often do you listen to your tapes?

Well for some of us not as frequently as we might like. The BBC has just made our lives easier and more complicated at the same time. Recent advances in technology mean we can have access to more radio air time than at any point in history. The quality of current transmissions means that the medium wave transmissions which were our staple diet in days of yore have a very different sound quality from today's broadcasts. If you return to that pile of tapes once prized and cherished, the latest broadcasts appear to offer substantially clearer sound and easier listening. Those earlier and atmospheric recordings of an old and well loved favourite show can be just the tonic to kindle nostalgia of earlier Radio Days. I wouldn't be without my 'lo-fi' tapes with interference and chopped edits.

Those recordings stop time and take me back to a world which evokes coal fires and simpler pleasures.

If you are able to keep up with new technology it is now possible to record broadcasts almost identical in quality to the original source. No speed variation, no background noise; minimal interference - just clear precise recordings.

David Matthews has been tuning in every week to BBC7 and has made pristine recordings of every Navy Lark broadcast so far. These shows will be available from the library solely in CD form. We are NOT replacing our existing shows with these new recordings. It is important to maintain as far as possible our archive of original broadcasts, however with the march of technology it seems appropriate to start a new strand to the library and give everyone - not yet digitally enhanced - a great opportunity to upgrade their collection of Navy Lark recordings from off air recordings made using the latest technology.

By availing yourself of these shows the recordings will make those earlier tape recordings seem a little lack lustre. The new recordings are in the main wonderful to hear: the clarity and fullness of sound make for a very entertaining half hour. Material broadcast so far originates in part from the BBC Transcription Service (28 [approx] minute shows) and other internal sources where recordings are sometimes greater than 30 minutes in length. To help you with your own archive here is a listing provided by David Matthews. BBC7 repeat broadcasts of the listed shows are not indicated on this page. It is believed that the copyright for re-broadcasting of Navy Lark material has not been cleared for all shows, hence repeat broadcasts will re-appear in the BBC7 schedules for the time being.

ASK For...



24.05.1959	The Multiple Mines	29.34	19.12.2002	DM1
29.01.1960	The Lighthouse Lark	29.20	02.10.2003	
14.12.1960	Mount Rumpus Atoll	28.25	09.10.2003	DM2
22.02.1961	Commodore Goldstein	29.04	16.10.2003	
06.10.1961	Northampton Hunt Ball	29.20	16.01.2003	DM3
19.04.1963	A Deliberate Bashing	29.50	23.01.2003	
22.08.1965	Let Loose with a Chopper	29.41	30.01.2003	DM4
15.10.1967	Cuthbert Joins The Navy	25.16	13.02.2003	
20.10.1968	The Redundancy Drive	26.58	20.02.2003	DM5
08.03.1972	Forbodians Hi-Jack Troutbridge	27.01	27.02.2003	
23.05.1971	Impressions for Survival	26.56	13.03.2003	DM6
06.06.1971	The Mysterious Radio Signals	29.40	20.03.2003	
13.06.1971	Operation Recovery	30.13	27.03.2003	DM7
20.06.1971	The Slogan Contest	30.07	03.04.2003	
27.06.1971	Sir Willoughby at Shanghai (200 Edn)	29.15	10.04.2003	DM8
04.07.1971	Operation Cowes Barge	29.50	17.04.2003	
18.07.1971	The Loch Ness Monster	29.48	24.04.2003	DM9
26.03.1972	The TV Documentary	27.42	15.05.2003	
09.04.1972	No1's Married Quarters	28.04	29.05.2003	DM10
07.05.1972	US Navigator Swap	30.03	08.05.2003	
14.05.1972	Admiral Lord Nelson Phillips	27.20	22.05.2003	DM11
04.06.1972	Opportunity Knockers	27.30	01.05.2003	
11.06.1972	Friday13th	28.05	05.06.2003	DM12
18.06.1972	New Naafi	27.18	12.06.2003	
29.07.1973	The Montezuela Revolution	27.48	19.06.2003	DM13
26.08.1973	Digital Isles Go Unstable	27.26	26.06.2003	
09.09.1973	Povey an Admiral at Last	28.11	03.07.2003	DM14
21.10.1973	Talpinium Shell	27.15	10.07.2003	
18.11.1975	NANA	27.40	17.07.2003	DM15
11.01.1976	The Case of the HMG Mk5	27.24	24.07.2003	

Available from the NLAS library on CD from Mid January - after the Christmas postal period



**SITCOM  
SPECIAL**

The Sitcom Story  
Mondays BBC1

**The secrets of**



# sitcom

## THE ULTIMATE SITCOM

This is what the experts\* told us it would look like...

### THE MONSTER WE PITY

Larger-than-life central character. Puffed-up, pompous – and tragically unaware of it. Aspiration + desperation = pathos. (See UK Gold this Saturday for a tribute to the classic monsters, Fawlty and Brent.)

#### Top nomination:

**A** David Brent (*The Office*)

#### Reserves:

**B** Basil Fawlty (*Fawlty Towers*)

**C** Captain Mainwaring (*Dad's Army*)

**D** Tony Hancock (*Hancock*),

Victor Meldrew (*One Foot in the Grave*),

Alf Garnett (*Till Death Us Do Part*)

### THE NORMAL PERSON

Could be you or me. This character provides the voice of reason – and a counterpoint for the Monster to play off.

#### Top nomination:

**E** Geraldine Granger (*The Vicar of Dibley*)

#### Reserves:

Tim Canterbury (*The Office*), Mr Lucas

(*Are You Being Served?*), Sergeant Wilson

(*Dad's Army*), Polly Sherman (*Fawlty Towers*)

### THE DAFT ONE

Uncomprehending butt of everyone's jokes – ideal vehicle for the releasing of tension and emotion.

#### Top nomination:

**F** Alice Tinker (*The Vicar of Dibley*)

#### Reserves:

Manuel (*Fawlty Towers*), Peggy Ollerenshaw

(*Hi-de-Hi!*), Frank Pike (*Dad's Army*),

Compo (*Last of the Summer Wine*)

### THE CHORUS

Subsidiary characters, all with an overriding, slightly one-dimensional characteristic.

#### Top nominations:

**G** The Tart – Dorian Green  
(*Birds of a Feather*)

**H** The Snob – Hyacinth Bucket  
(*Keeping Up Appearances*)

**I** The Camp Man – Mr Humphries  
(*Are You Being Served?*)

**J** The Thwarted Sidekick –  
Rodney Trotter (*Only Fools and Horses*)

**K** The Lovable Rogue –  
Del Trotter (*Only Fools and Horses*)

**L** The Batty Old Lady – Norma  
Speakman aka Nana (*The Royle Family*)

### THE SITUATION – TRAPPED!

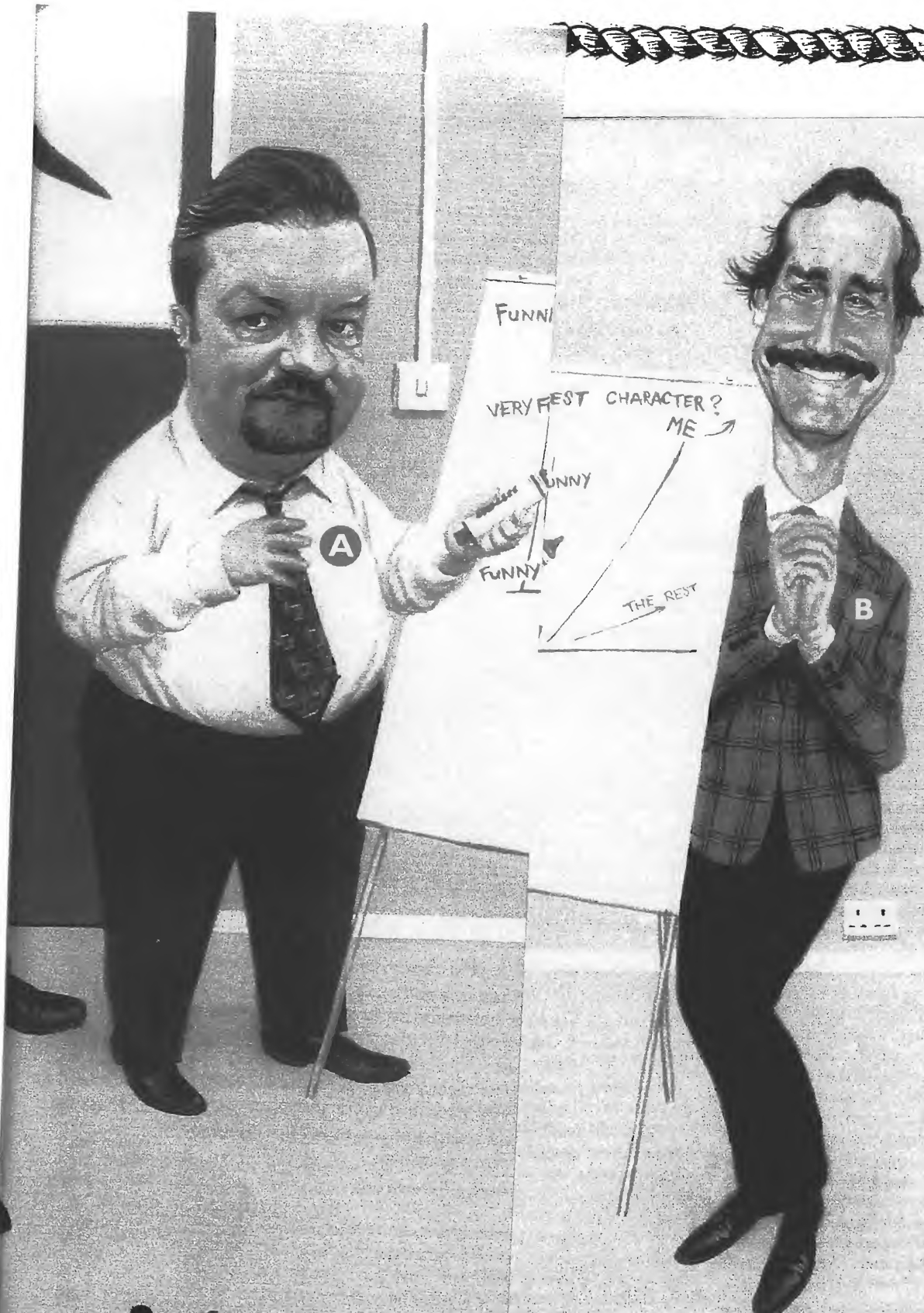
Key to success is the notion that, try as they might, the characters can't escape.

**Nominated situation:** Compulsory training classes for employees sent by their company to improve their people skills – an ill-matched assortment of characters is forced to find out more about themselves and each other. With hilarious – and sometimes sad – results.

**Reserve situations:** Suburban family home shop (chemist, stationer), or any workplace picked at random from Yellow Pages.

### PATHOS

Yes please. Whereas US viewers want winners and upbeat messages, we Brits like losers and things never quite working out.





# Who compiles these Lists?

How can the longest running comedy series featuring all the character types mentioned in the survey fail to make it to the listing? It could be assumed from the BBC published list of 100 sit-com shows that radio comedy is unworthy of inclusion in a serious consideration of sit-com. George Cole's *A Life of Bliss* deserves to be mentioned. It is a delightful take on the world around a young man. He encounters all manner of people and situations and tries to cope in an appropriate way. *Whack-C* is as true today as it ever was. It takes a sideways view on school management and pupil behaviour and just gives each side sufficient 'froth' and character to create humour born from believable situations. *The Men from The Ministry* pre-dates *Yes Minister/Prime Minister* by a generation. Nonetheless the audience is given a chance to interact with Whitehall employees not public figures. How close either interpretation is to the truth on occasions we are left in little doubt. Even in recent times the excellent Michael Williams series *Bristow* included some marvellous stereotypes usually found in British situation comedy.

Radio shows must be fully represented in surveys purporting to look at situation comedy. Their absence denies the major contribution to the development of the genre.

## Try this at home!

On the previous page is a cutting taken from the Radio Times introducing the Sit-Com survey which has been run on the web. Contributors to the site have rightly wondered where shows like *The Glums* are. Surprising indeed, given this show did manage to transfer from radio to TV.

The Radio Times article lists a series of character traits. Look for yourself and see which Navy Lark persona matches the suggested list of personality traits.

### Top of the List...

**The Monster we pity** an interesting description, well suited to Henry Povey. At work he bellows and constantly attempts to get the crew of Troutbridge to conform to Queen's Regulations. A stickler for discipline and a clear leader, he has plenty of world knowledge which means he can see a problem before there is one. He constantly keeps a watch on his crew and is not averse to being underhand when it suits in order to 'win the day'. Despite his bullish nature, he continually appears to be no match for his incompetent fellow officers and conniving ratings who appear to be life's underdogs. Yet, although their collective indifference to discipline seriously undermines Henry Povey's seamanship and austere demeanour, his commitment to Her Majesty's Navy and the Senior Service requires him to constantly marshal his charges in order to prevent a greater scam or catastrophe ensuing.

Povey's posturing and vociferous outbursts (always to no avail) are witnessed in the context of his other life: the after work situation. Listeners fully appreciate that when the Dockyard hooter goes and people scurry home for tea, Henry Povey has to face an opponent of greater magnitude than anything The Royal Navy can throw at him - Ramona Povey, his wife. As Henry reaches for the door bell of his married quarters (keen listeners will remember he is rarely allowed to have money or keys by his harridan wife) at three minutes past five (in the evening) he will be met with scorn and derision for his lateness. He will be reminded for the umpteenth time that his tardiness has severely inconvenienced Ramona who has been slaving over a hot stove cooking his tea (always a boiled egg). Ramona will also take the opportunity to point out that a long list of household chores will need to be done by Henry. Failure to do so will result in disciplining and further erosion of his very low self-esteem. Weekends are likewise filled with essential household maintenance, which is invariably set against a backdrop of commands and demands outlining Ramona's lady of the manor status as well as confining the territory within the marital home which Henry might reasonably employ. It is this juxtaposition of a bullish ship's commander who fails to get the erstwhile respect of his charges when at work, and the domestic purgatory to which he must return each day when Troutbridge is in dock which raises our sympathy. Henry Povey's incompetence is further exposed whenever he attempts to employ the crew of Troutbridge in organising a diversionary tactic to allow him to leave his marital home for an evening out or weekend away. Henry is locked into a cycle of ignominy at work and domestic oppression. Yet, despite his continuum of negative experiences, he remains a very professional individual and totally committed to both situations. By day his loyal seaward endurance alongside a group of naval reprobates as he constantly seeks to minimise their incompetence, excesses as well as monitor the damage they wreak to MOD property and beyond. His singular lack of real career success is recognisably due to the crew of Troutbridge, which we feel no real sympathy for his situation. No-one likes thundering bosses and Henry Povey fits the mould perfectly. However, when Povey goes home the listening audience witnesses a change in character. Henry becomes the errant husband according to his strident wife, who is demanding and obnoxious in equal amounts. Henry suffers constant rebukes and is expected to undertake tasks which clearly belittle him. However, Henry Povey remains loving and supportive to his wife and as a result of his steadfastness and fortitude in very trying circumstances, he gains the audience's pity and concern. The contrasts exhibited by Povey are delicious. We can sympathise with the Troutbridge crew in one work place situation yet squirm at the ignominy of a domestic situation later.

The scripts by Laurie Wyman and George Evans explore fully and beautifully those definable character traits we come to expect in situation comedy and they feature them all! Mrs Todhunter-Brown **IS** the batty old lady. But The Navy Lark manages to go one step further than this survey. We have Burwisher, Flags, Queeg, (Welsh) nationalist, the list just grows the more thought one applies.

Let's have your submissions of names and character traits. It will be interesting to formulate a composite list from our mail bag; we will endeavour to publish the survey next Summer (2004) if the response is good.



# Loose ties



## Where are they now?

Two names connected with The Navy Lark have surfaced: Ken Windsor and Evelyn.

**Ken Windsor** has an entry on the WWW explaining that he joined the cast after Ronnie Barker left:  
*In Navy Lark I play many characters and do many different voices. This came about after Ronnie Barker left because he always used to do the eccentric voices, and I just played the 'Chief.' now that Ronnie has left the show the field is wide open, and I can put in all sorts of new characters. Navy Lark team is just a big family. We can literally just turn up, have a quick look at the script, and go straight into recording the whole programme. Leslie Phillips and I work very closely together and often we will deliberately blow a whole scene just so that we can do it again. We stick things in our ears, mess about, and behave quite outrageously just to get the audience to giggle and start them laughing at us to build up the atmosphere. Some of the audience for the programme are very patronic, and have been coming for years and years. they will go up to complete strangers and say things like 'excuse me - this is my seat, I have been sitting here for 12 years - now push off'*

From an interview with **Ken Windsor**

This is the first posting of such a reference on the net and if anyone can help with further information about this actor it would be marvellous to learn more. Tenniel Evans has acceded that he has no recollection of any permanent additions to the cast but there were occasional 'extras'.

We have been advised to see if the the Stage Manager **Evelyn** has any recollections. Has anyone a contact address

The article re-printed here from an earlier edition of the newsletter resulted in a very interesting flurry of correspondence.

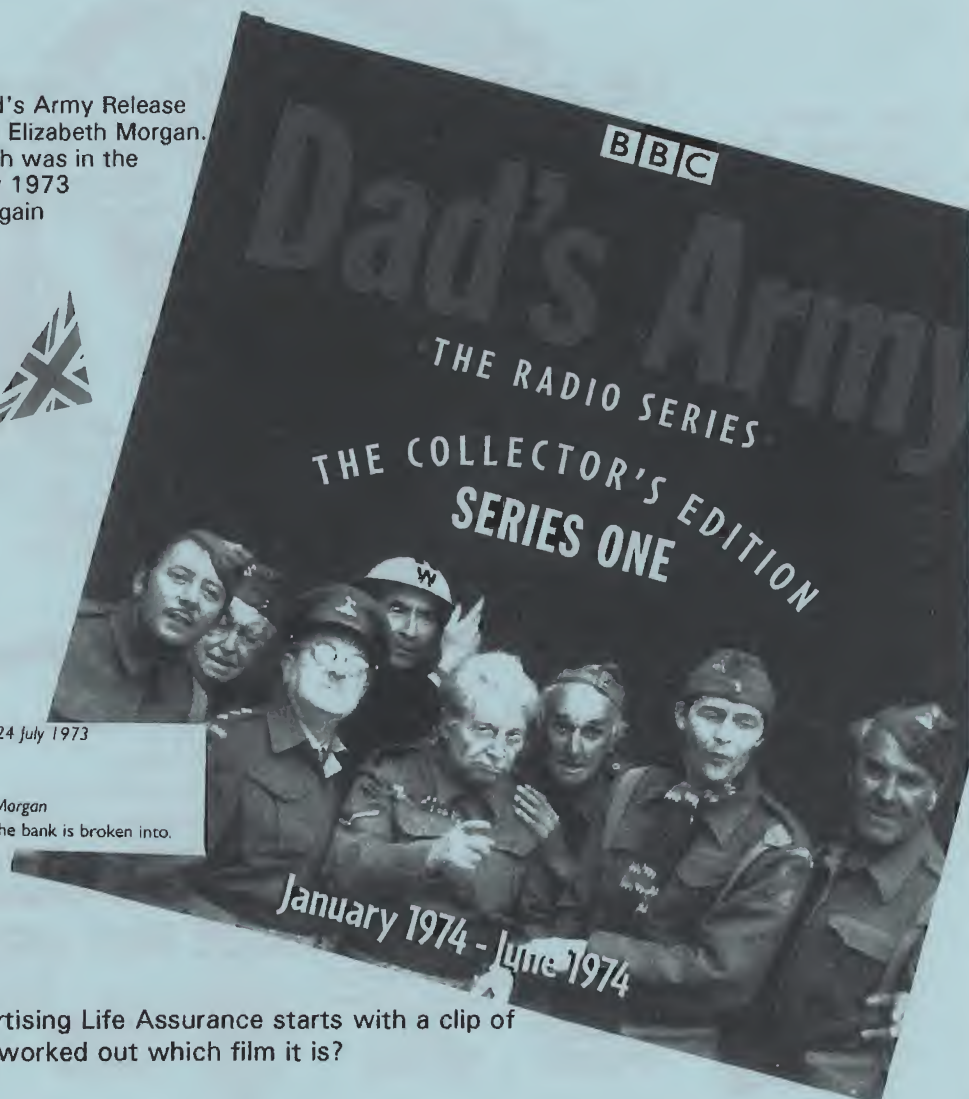
**Evelyn Wells** worked with Alastair Scott-Johnson at the BBC and has been in contact with us. She fondly remembers the Navy Lark as a great show to work on and the tremendous joy shared by everyone on the production side. Furthermore, Evelyn has a terrific memory and on reading the article from Autumn 2002 she was able to tell us that **NO SUCH PERSON** ever worked on the show. The posting on the net by this individual is a purely fictitious. Evelyn further explained that the person writing the article clearly had

no idea of studio recording. Each programme was meticulously rehearsed during the day when revisions were made or characters developed for the final recording. The idea of a professional cast attempting impromptu antics was inconceivable. Each recording was meticulously timed; the show had to run for a specific time, editing a recording in order to tidy up a broadcast had yet to develop to the standard today's performers might reasonably expect. Therefore, cast and technicians involved in putting a show together needed to be tightly co-ordinated which left no opportunity for improvisation. As a listener to The Navy Lark, you may recall just one or two occasions when the cast become audibly amused by a fellow actor. Leslie Phillips' (un)Scottish accent is the sole occasion which drew an observational remark from Jon Pertwee during a recording, but after a brief moment of mirth the cast returned to the script and the job in hand.

Evelyn has kindly agreed to provide a few reminiscences for us in the future. It will be interesting to learn more about the show from a new perspective.

## JUMPING SHIP

It was interesting to see in a recent Dad's Army Release a cameo performance listed by our own Elizabeth Morgan. Looking at the dates published, Elizabeth was in the studio with the Dad's Army cast in July 1973 and six weeks later she was on stage again with the crew from Troutbridge. Elizabeth is as busy as ever these days. Work commitments include voice work for animation and adverts. We wonder if she has ever kept a list of those parts? It would be fascinating to see!



Episode Twelve: Something Nasty in the Vault Recorded 24 July 1973

Broadcast 15 April 1974

(without Arnold Ridley)

Additional cast: Bill Pertwee, Frank Thornton, John Barron, Elizabeth Morgan

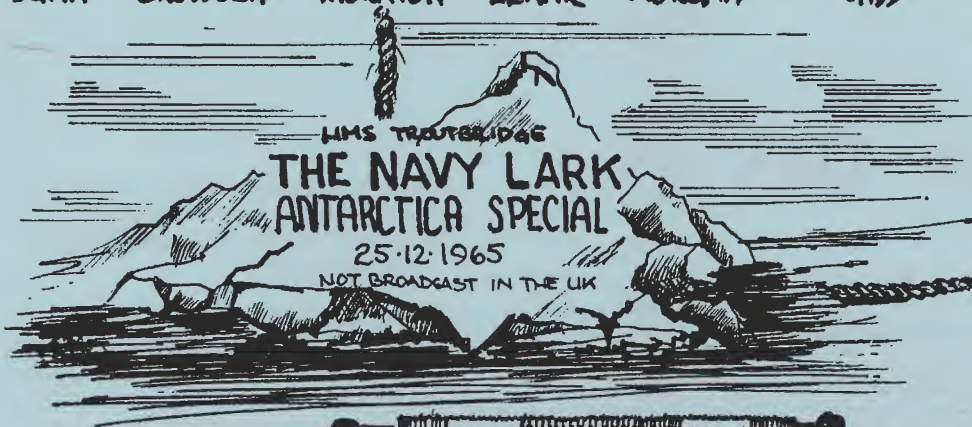
Mainwaring and Wilson fall upon an explosive situation when the bank is broken into.

## .....and Finally

An advert with June Whitfield advertising Life Assurance starts with a clip of a Leslie Phillips movie. Has anyone worked out which film it is?



WINN CROWDEN THORNTON LENNIE MORGAN RADD CALDICOT HUNTER



# THE NAVY LARK VII

25.12.1965

NOT BROADCAST IN THE UK

## THE NAVY LARK VII HMS

BBC LIGHT PROGRAMME 11.07.1966

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN

RICHARD CALDICOT JON PERTWEE MICHAEL BATES

## THE NAVY LARK VIII HMS

BBC LIGHT PROGRAMME 04.08.1966

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN

FRANK THORNTON DEREK FRANCS RICHARD CALDICOT ANNOUNCER

## THE EMBASSY LARK I (TRAVIAN EMBASSY)

BBC LIGHT PROGRAMME 15.03.1966 - 17.06.1966 TUES 19.30

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN ALASTAIR SCOTT-JOHNSON

MICHAEL SPICE FRASER KERR IAN WATERS DAVID FALLON CHARLOTTE MITCHELL FRANK THORNTON DEREK FRANCIS FRANCIS DE WOLFE RICHARD CALDICOT

DEREK NIMMO LAURIE WYMAN IAN WATERS RONNIE BARKER STEPHEN MURRAY HEATHER CHASEN JAN WATERS RICHARD CALDICOT

24.05.1966

12.04.1966

12.04.1966

12.04.1966

07.06.1966

24.06.1966

22.03.1966

10.05.1966

ANNOUNCER: ROBIN BOYLE RONALD FLETCHER

## THE EMBASSY LARK II (TRAVIAN EMBASSY)

BBC LIGHT PROGRAMME 17.01.1967 - 18.04.1967 TUES 21.00

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN ALASTAIR SCOTT-JOHNSON

DAVID FALLON MICHAEL SPICE ANTHONY SAGAR CHARLOTTE MITCHELL FRANK THORNTON DEREK FRANCIS FRANCIS DE WOLFE RICHARD CALDICOT

ANNOUNCER: RONALD FLETCHER

LAWRIE WYMAN 14.02.1967

## THE EMBASSY LARK III (TRAVIAN EMBASSY)

BBC RADIO 2 05.03.1968 - 11.06.1968 TUES 20.45

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN

PRODUCED BY ALASTAIR SCOTT-JOHNSON

MICHAEL SPICE PETER STEPHENS CHARLOTTE MITCHELL FRANK THORNTON DEREK FRANCIS FRANCIS DE WOLFE LESLIE PHILLIPS

16.04.1968

ANNOUNCER: MICHAEL DE MORGAN

## THE BIG BUSINESS LARK BRITISH UNITED PLASTICS LTD

BBC RADIO 2 06.07.1969 - 28.09.1969 SUN 14.00

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN

PRODUCED BY ALASTAIR SCOTT-JOHNSON

ALEXANDER JOHN GWEN CHERRELL JIMMY EDWARDS FRANK THORNTON NIGEL GRAHAM ELIZABETH MORGAN

ANNOUNCER: MICHAEL DE MORGAN

## TROUTBRIDGE REUNION (INTRODUCED BY ROY HUXD)

BBC RADIO 2 26.12.1992

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN

PRODUCED BY ALASTAIR SCOTT-JOHNSON

RICHARD CALDICOT JON PERTWEE TENNIEL EVANS HEATHER CHASEN LESLIE PHILLIPS

## THE JUBILEE NAVY LARK HMS TROUTBRIDGE

BBC RADIO 2 16.07.1977

WRITTEN BY LAURIE WYMAN + GEORGE EVANS

PRODUCED BY ALASTAIR SCOTT-JOHNSON

RICHARD CALDICOT JON PERTWEE MICHAEL BATES HEATHER CHASEN LESLIE PHILLIPS STEPHEN MURRAY TENNIEL EVANS



ELIZABETH MORGAN 09.09.1973

GRETA GOURIETA 23.11.1975